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KENTUCKY'S  
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THE STATE CAPITOL—NORTH FRONT



# Kentucky's New State Capitol



Prepared by Geo. A. Lewis,  
Superintendent of Public Printing

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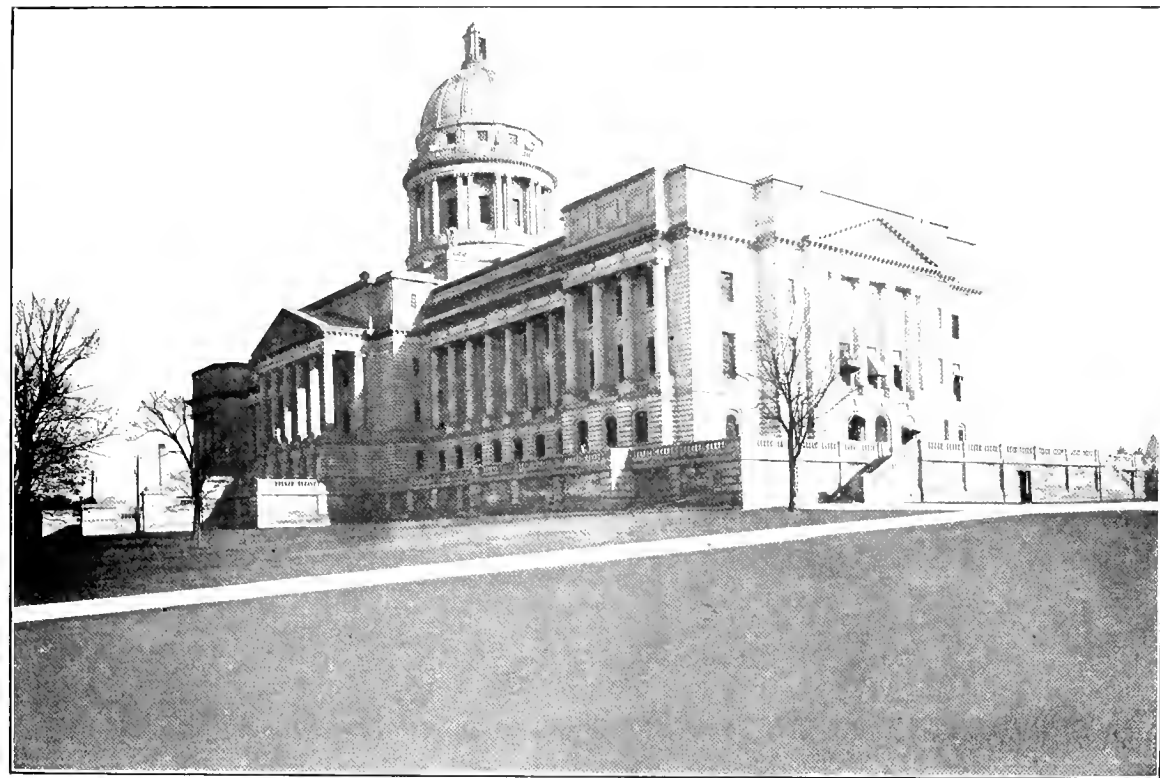
GEO. A. LEWIS



The Photos used in this book are by H. A. Gretter, Frankfort, Ky

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THE STATE CAPITOL WEST FRONT





## Amount of Appropriations

THE following amounts have been appropriated for the new Capitol by the various Legislatures:

1901.	For the erection of the new building.....	\$1,000,000
1905.	To purchase a new location.....	40,000
1905.	Special appropriation for additional ground.....	20,000
1906.	To cover cost of change in interior finish....	250,000
1908.	To carry on work and furnish building....	460,000
1910.	To complete landscaping of grounds.....	50,000
Total.....		\$1,820,000

## Cost of the Capital

Amount expended for building.....	\$1,180,431.80
Amount expended for grounds.....	63,793.05
Amount expended for furniture, carpets, marble floors, mural paintings, etc.....	144,881.00
Amount expended for metal file cases, vaults, etc.....	45,188.00
Amount expended for power plant.....	90,000.00
Amount expended for heating, lighting and electrical fixtures, .....	108,703.20
Amount expended for terrace and landscaping.....	190,000.00
<hr/>	
Total amount expended.....	\$1,820,000.00

The fees of the architect, Frank M. Andrews—amounting to \$82,730.00—are included in the above figures.



REAR OF CAPITOL FROM WEST END.



## Dimensions of State House

Total length of Building, from east to west.....	403 feet
Depth of central part of Building, through the vestibule.....	186 feet
Diameter of Rotunda.....	57 feet
Height of Building from terrace floor to top of parapet wall.....	80 feet
Height of Dome from terrace floor to top of lantern.....	212 feet
Width of Architectural Terrace, at the front and rear of the wings of the building and at the east end.....	30 feet
Width of Architectural Terrace at the west end and rear of central pavilion..	40 feet
Length of Pediment from east to west.....	74 feet
Height of Pediment from base line to apex.....	25 feet

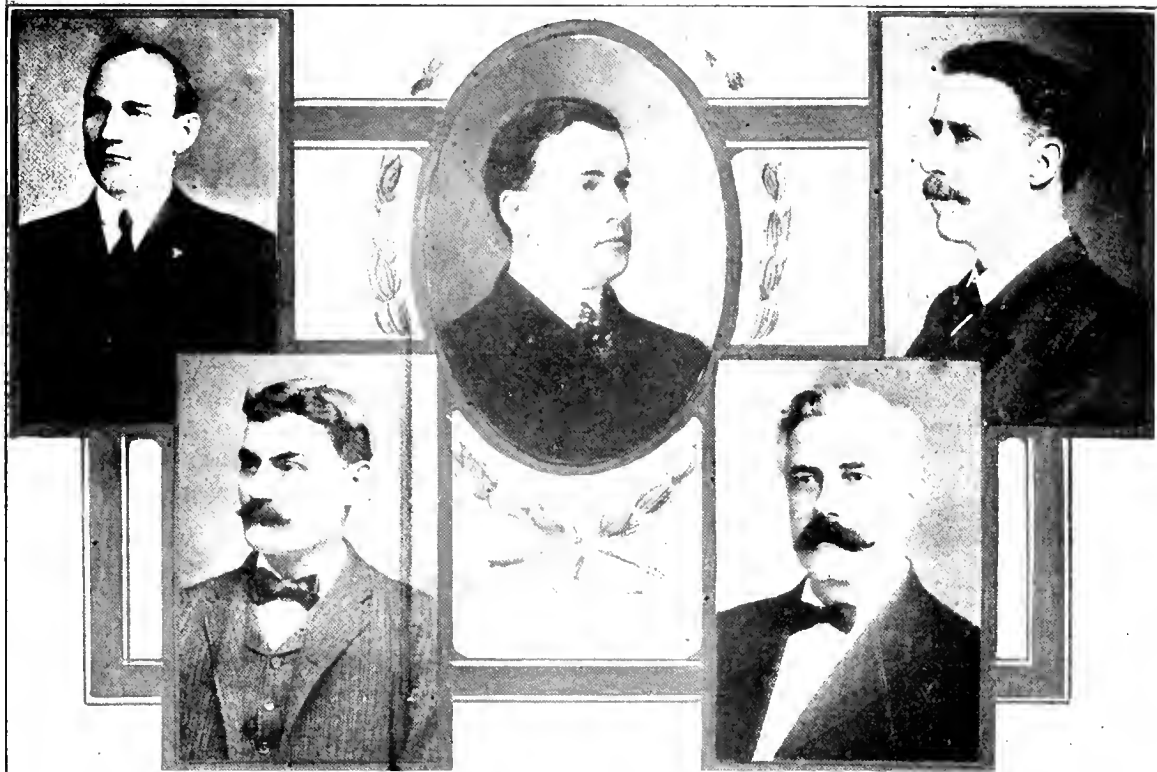
## The New State House

WHEN the Legislature of 1901 met the State of Kentucky was practically out of debt, a bill appropriating \$1,000,000 for the purpose of erecting a new State Capitol passed that body with but one dissenting vote, and a commission to carry out the provisions of the act was appointed, consisting of the following:

J. C. W. BECKHAM,	.	.	.	.	.	Governor
H. V. MCCLESNEY,	.	.	.	.	.	Secretary of State
S. W. HAGER,	.	.	.	.	.	State Auditor
N. B. HAYS,	.	.	.	.	.	Attorney General
H. M. BOSWORTH,	.	.	.	.	.	State Treasurer

Henry B. Ware was made Secretary to the Board.

It was provided by the act above referred to that the new building was to be erected upon the site of the old, but when the Architect, Frank M. Andrews, of Dayton, Ohio, presented his plans it was found that the old location was not suitable for the proposed structure, and a special session of the Legislature was called to meet in January, 1905, to consider the matter. The result was that the location was changed to the south side of Frankfort, \$10,000 appropriated for the purchase of grounds and the farm known as the "Hunt Place," containing thirty-three acres, secured for the purpose.



CAPITOL COMMISSION, WHICH BEGAN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CAPITOL

H. V. McChesney, Sec'y of State

J. C. W. Beckham, Governor

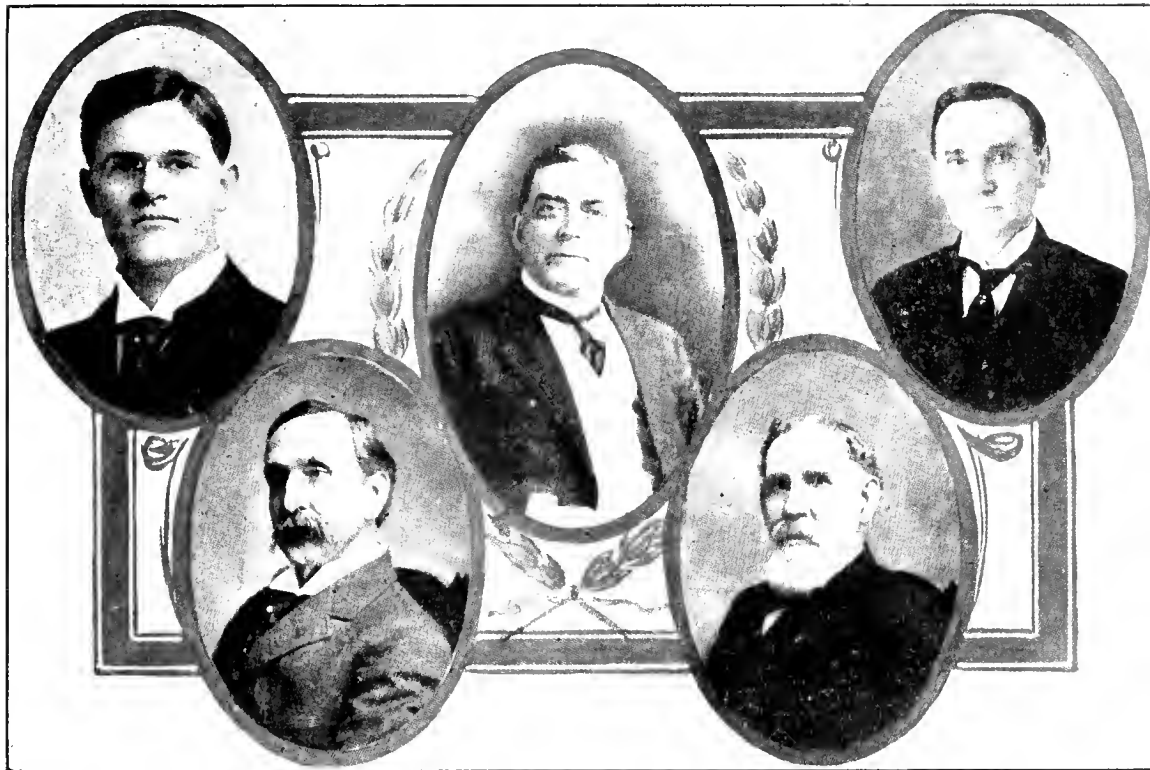
N. B. Hayes, Atty Gen'l

H. M. Bosworth, Treasurer

S. W. Hager, Auditor







NEW CAPITOL COMMISSION, WHICH COMPLETED THE "NEW KENTUCKY HOME"

Ben L. Bruner, Sec'y State

Augustus E. Willson, Governor

James Breathitt, Atty Gen'l

Frank P. James, Auditor

Edwin Farley, Treasurer



A contract for the erection of the building was let to the General Supply and Construction Company of New York, and on the 14th of August, 1905, the ground was broken for the foundation, and on the 16th of June, 1906, the corner stone was laid. The work progressed rapidly, but was scarcely under roof when, on the 1st of January, 1908, there was a change of administration, and the following Commissioners took charge of affairs:

AUGUSTUS E. WILLSON,	. . . . .	Governor
BEN L. BRUNER,	. . . . .	Secretary of State
FRANK P. JAMES,	. . . . .	State Auditor
JAMES BREATHITT,	. . . . .	Attorney General
EDWIN FARLEY,	. . . . .	State Treasurer

Capt. Edward M. Drane was made Secretary.

Under this new management the work was not permitted to lag, contracts for the completion and furnishing of the building were let, and on the 26th of July, 1909, Dr. Ben L. Bruner, Secretary of State, moved into and formally occupied his apartments in the northwest portion of the building. The other State officials soon followed, and by the 1st of December every department was comfortably located in new quarters, and on the Tuesday after the first Monday in January, 1910, the first session of the Kentucky Legislature to be held in the new Capitol was convened.

The building is one of the handsomest, if not the most handsome, in the United States, contains two hundred and seventy-four rooms and apartments, and is something of which every Kentuckian can be proud.

## The Grounds

**E**NTERING the grounds at Todd street is an avenue 360 feet wide, with a beautiful grass plot in the center, while macadam driveways and concrete walks run along each side. At the distance of 400 feet State street (the new thoroughfare which has been opened through the grounds from Shelby to Logan street) is reached, and here the drive and walkways reach out on either hand to the east and west entrances and also extend clear around the building. The grounds have been handsomely graded, slope away gracefully from the front of the building and sides of the approach, and in their summer dress of blue grass are beautiful indeed.

## The Approach

**A**LONG the south side of State street there extends a wall of rubble masonry, from Logan street on the east and from Shelby street on the west, which end, upon reaching the avenue, in a crescent-shaped cut stone terminal, curving inward toward the driveways. Between the driveways springs a terrace, the front of which is covered by a flight of 16 granite steps, laid in two flights of 4 and 12 steps respectively, at the ends of which are stone balustrades, terminating at the bottom in paneled effect, reaching out toward the driveways, and in conjunction with the walls above mentioned, giving the appearance of a gateway entrance upon either side, while at the foot of the stairway and along the wing walls are wide concrete walks.



THE STATE LIBRARY LAW DEPARTMENT



Ascending the stairway a plaza 30x72 feet is reached, the oval ends of which are inclosed in cut stone balustrade and the space paved with vitrified brick and concrete laid in form, with concrete border. Reaching across the south side of this plaza is another cut-stone balustrade, with openings at either end, protected by heavy buttresses, through which there is another ascent of 8 steps of granite. This brings one into an inclosure 69x196 feet, bounded on either hand by a stone balustrade, 3 feet in height, along the sides of which are ramples, or walkways, of vitrified brick, laid in form, 8 feet 4 inches wide, with a concrete border 2 feet 4 inches in width. These walks are united at the ends of the inclosure, bounding on all four sides what is called a Tapis Vert (carpet of green) or beautiful grass plot.

These ramples terminate at a second cut stone balustrade on the south, reaching across from east to west, with openings at the ends to admit still other flights of 6 granite steps, which reach the Belvidere—an inclosure at the foot of the terrace steps, beautifully paved with brick and concrete, with a fountain space in the center, and openings in the balustrade on either side to admit concrete walks coming in from the east and west ends of the building.

To look down upon the approach from the windows of the building it has the appearance of an immense Persian rug spread out at the foot of the terrace steps with streamers stretching away to terminate in tasseled effect. It will have to be seen from a point of vantage for its beauties to be fully appreciated.

## Exterior

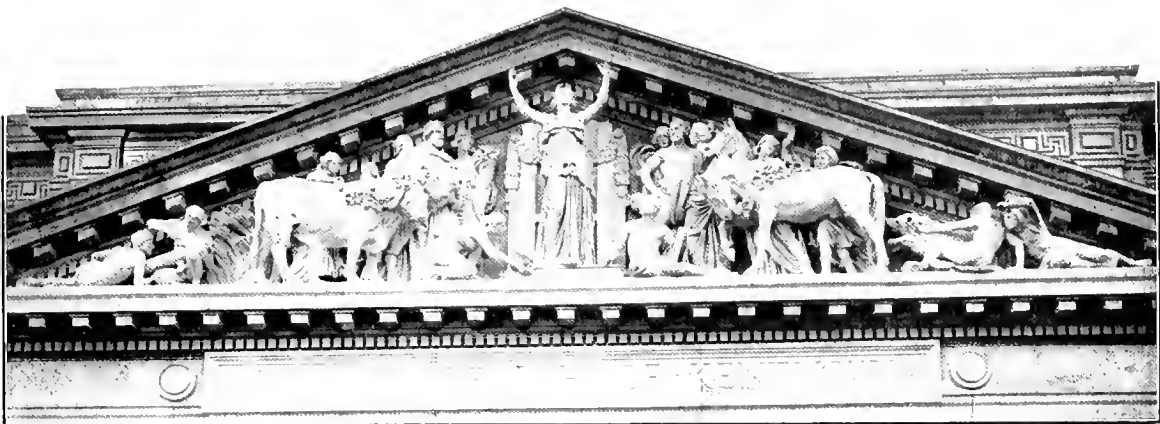
THE face-work of the building is constructed of Oolitic limestone from Bedford, Indiana, with a Vermont granite base, and rests upon a concrete foundation as

solid as the everlasting hills. It is surrounded by an architectural stone terrace, with concrete floor covered with vitrified brick. The outer walls of the building are ornamented with seventy Ionic columns—thirty-two on the front, four on either end and thirty on the back. All of them are monoliths, twenty-seven feet ten inches tall and weigh about eighteen tons each.

## The Pediment

**O**VER the north entrance is richly sculptured, and adds greatly to the appearance of the building. The heroic figure in the centre represents Kentucky, standing in front of a chair of state. Her immediate attendants are Progress, who is seen kneeling at her feet, pushing a winged wheel; History, on the right, is recording the events of the richly peopled past; Plenty stands in the left background with a cornucopia overflowing with fruit and grain. Art is represented on the right by a female figure with palette and brush in her hand; Labor, in the rear facing Art, by a male figure stripped to the waist and grasping a hammer. An agricultural aspect is introduced by groups of cattle and horses, with male and female figures wreathing the picture creatures as in festal array. The idea of the statute is portrayed in the two ends of the Pediment by its grouping, and its indivisibility and stability are shown in the State seal, which is indicated at the left end by a group of two figures tying fascets, signifying strength and unity. At the other end is an Indian group of two figures, suggestive of pioneer days, crouching with fear and watching the approach of civilization.





THE PEDIMENT





THE MAIN CORRIDOR.



The Pediment was designed by Chas. Henry Niehaus, of New York, who had the contract, and received \$10,000 for its execution. He employed an Austrian sculptor by the name of Peter Rossak to do the work.

## Entrances

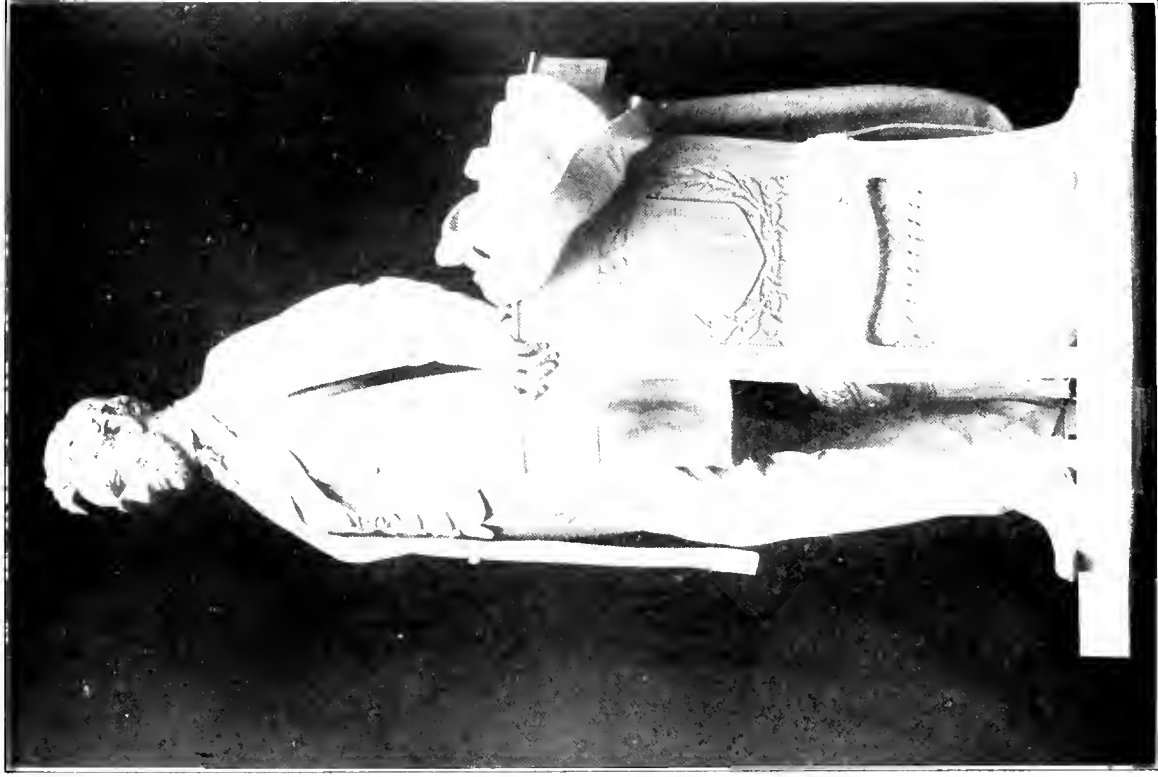
THERE are three entrances to the building, one facing the east and one at the west, while the principal doors face the north. In approaching these latter from the city it is necessary to ascend a flight of 24 steps, in rests of 8 steps each, to reach the terrace floor. The steps are of Georgia granite and the terrace floor is of concrete covered with vitrified brick (the reasons for the latter being that it is a more secure footing in winter and does not reflect light and heat in summer), while the 3 steps from the terrace to the doors are of granite. At the east entrance the terrace is reached by a few steps from the driveway, but at the west entrance there are two flights of 24 steps of granite each—one ascending from the north and the other from the south. The outer vestibules are of Bedford limestone, but the interior walls are of Georgia and the floors of Tennessee marble. On either side of the north entrance to the rotunda there is a bronze tablet—the one on the west bearing the names of the Commissioners who had charge of the earlier stages of the erection of the building, and the one on the east bearing the names of the Commissioners who completed it. On the left of the entrance is temporarily placed a handsome bronze bust of President Lincoln, mounted upon a beautiful marble pedestal, the gift to the State of Messrs. Bernheim Brothers, of Louisville.

## The Dome

**I**S A close copy of the dome of the Hotel des Invalides, in Paris, France, and in the centre of the rotunda is a circle representing the position of the red Finnish marble sarcophagus containing the ashes of the great Napoleon. The floor of the rotunda is composed of several kinds of marble—Light Italo, blue and pink Tennessee and Verde Antique—while the walls are of Georgia marble. Upon the top of the dome there is a lantern containing four large 5,000 candle power arc lights, while the interior of the dome is lighted by 800 incandescent bulbs—120 in the eye, 120 reflected lights at the head of the pilasters, 120 upon the walls of the balcony, a line of 320 around the cornice and 120 in the pendants on the walls at the second floor. When all are burning the effect is magnificent.

## The Lincoln Statue

**I**N the center of the rotunda, under the dome, upon a massive pedestal of green Serpentine Marble, from Easton, Pennsylvania, rests a magnificent bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln, the martyred President, and greatest of all Kentucky's gifted sons. It is of heroic size, 11 feet from base of pedestal to top of statue, and is the work of the accomplished sculptor, Mr. A. A. Weinman, of New York, pupil of Augustus St. Gaudens, author of the celebrated Lincoln statue which stands in Lincoln Park, Chi-



THE LINCOLN STATUE.





cago. This was presented to the State by Mr. J. B. Speed, of Louisville, at a cost of nearly \$40,000, and is pronounced by experts to be more perfect than the Chicago statue.

## Corridors, Stairways and Nave

FOR elegance of finish these features are surpassed by no State Capitol and are equalled by few. The floors of the corridors are of Tennessee marble, trimmed with Verde Antique and Light Italo marble, the wainscoting and pilasters are of Georgia marble, while the walls are covered with canvas, painted burnt orange, and the stairways are of Georgia marble. The nave is beautiful indeed, being generous in length and breadth, and is ornamented with thirty-six magnificent monolithic columns of Vermont granite, supporting massive cornices. These columns are 26 feet tall, weigh ten tons, and cost—base, shaft and capital—\$1,968.00 each.

## Mural Paintings

THE lunettes of the nave are ornamented with handsome oil paintings, which are exceedingly interesting, and treat of early events in the history of Kentucky. The subject of that in the east wing is "Boone and Companions taking their First View of the beautiful level of Kentucky"—an event which transpired from the top of

Pilot Knob, near Berea in Madison county, but the artist has placed the figures in front of the Boone monument in the Frankfort cemetery, and has them looking towards the new State Capitol, giving it a local color pleasing to the residents of the Capital city.

The picture in the west lunette tells the story of the "Treaty of Wataga," which was concluded near Fort Wataga, Tennessee, in 1775. By its terms the Overhill Tribe of the Cherokee Indians, through their chief Ocon-os-to-to, or Dragging Canoe, sold to Daniel Boone for the Transylvania Land Company, the lands that they claimed in Kentucky for £10,000, or about \$18,000. The Indians claimed the territory extending from the Cumberland river on the west to the Cumberland mountains and Kentucky river on the east, and from the Ohio river south. The Transylvania (Beyond the Forest) Land Company was a corporation composed of North Carolina capitalists, headed by Judge, or Colonel, Richard Henderson, who proposed to exploit the lands in Kentucky. After the treaty was concluded Ocon-os-to-to told the white men that they had purchased an exceedingly beautiful country, but it was a Dark and Bloody Ground, and they would have trouble in maintaining it—the origin of the term "Dark and Bloody Ground," as applied to Kentucky. As the Cherokees were a Southern tribe, whose home was in Alabama and Georgia, which had been endeavoring for years to hold the territory against the Shawnees, Miamis and Mingos, of the North, it is supposed that he spoke from ample experience.

Colonel, or Judge, Henderson called a meeting of the "Proprietors of the Transylvania District," as the Land Company was called, at Boonesborough, and that organization established a code of nine laws for the government of the territory, which soon became onerous to the settlers, and they appealed to the Virginia Legislature, through Col. George Rogers Clark, for relief. The Legislature refused to rec-



SENATE CHAMBER.





HALL OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.



ognize the sale by the Indians to Henderson and his associates, claiming that this territory was previously ceded to the English Crown by the Six Nations, and was included in the charter granted to the colony of Virginia; but rather than deprive the Transylvania people of any benefit they might derive from the money they had paid the Cherokees, the Legislature gave to them 200,000 acres of land—what is known in Western Kentucky as the "Henderson grant"—beginning at the mouth of Green river, following its meanders up the stream for twenty miles and extending eight miles east and west from the river. Colonel, or Judge Henderson afterwards settled upon part of this grant, and it was in his honor that the city and county of Henderson were named. His relations still reside there, and today are among the most prominent citizens of that section.

These pictures were executed by T. Gillert White, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in Paris, France, at an expense to the State of \$7,000.

## The Offices

**U**PON the first floor are located file rooms and the offices of the Departments of Agriculture, Insurance, Land, Board of Control, Education, Adjutant General, Railroad and Prison Commissioners and Custodian, as well as the rooms of the Historical Society and Ladies' Reception. All these apartments, except Education (which is finished in mahogany), are finished in oak and furnished with the same.

On the second floor are the executive offices, viz: Governor's, Secretary of State, Auditor, Attorney General and Treasurer, the walls of all of which are hung

with velvet and handsomely furnished in mahogany. On this floor are also the office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, the Court Room, Board Room, Law Library, Judge's Consultation and private chambers and State Reception Room.

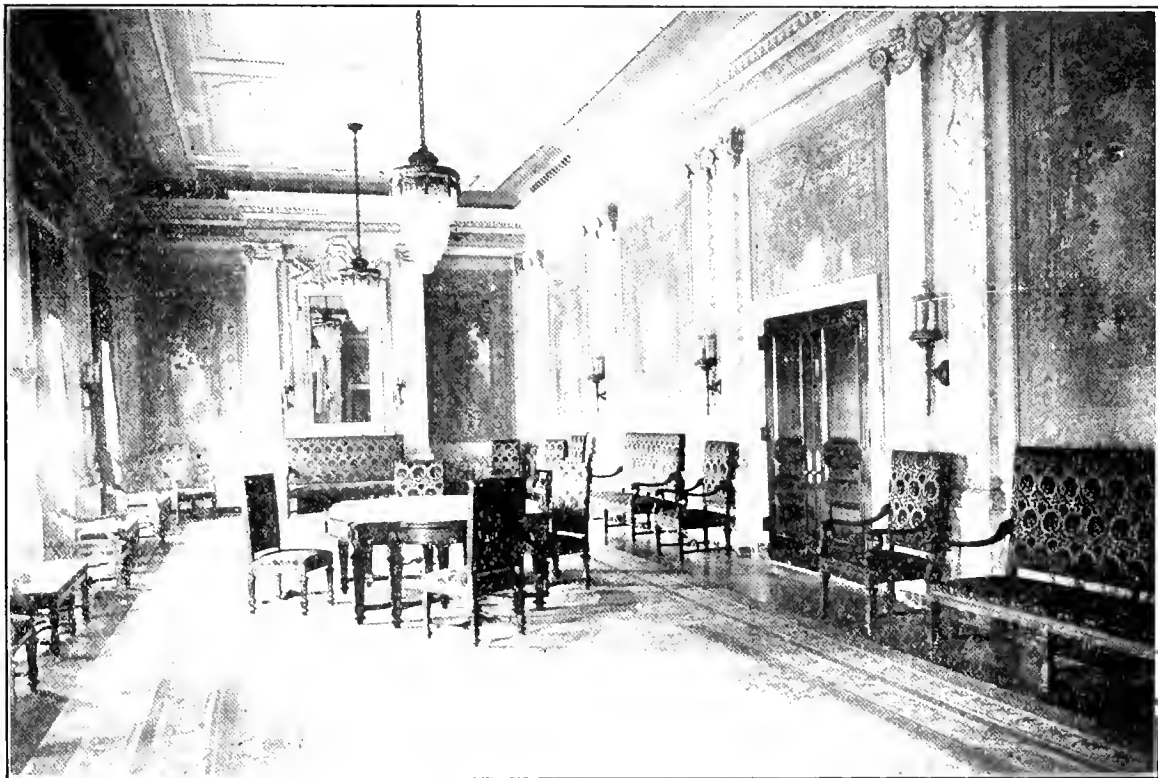
The third story is devoted mainly to the halls of legislation, cloak, committee and retiring rooms, though the Miscellaneous Library, Library Commission, State Inspector and Examiner, Court Reporter, Commissioner of Banking and Superintendent of Public Printing have quarters upon this floor.

## State Reception Room

THIS is one of the most beautiful apartments in the building, the design being of the Louis XIV period, and resembles very much the Public Reception Room of Queen Marie Antoinette, in the Palace at Versailles, France.

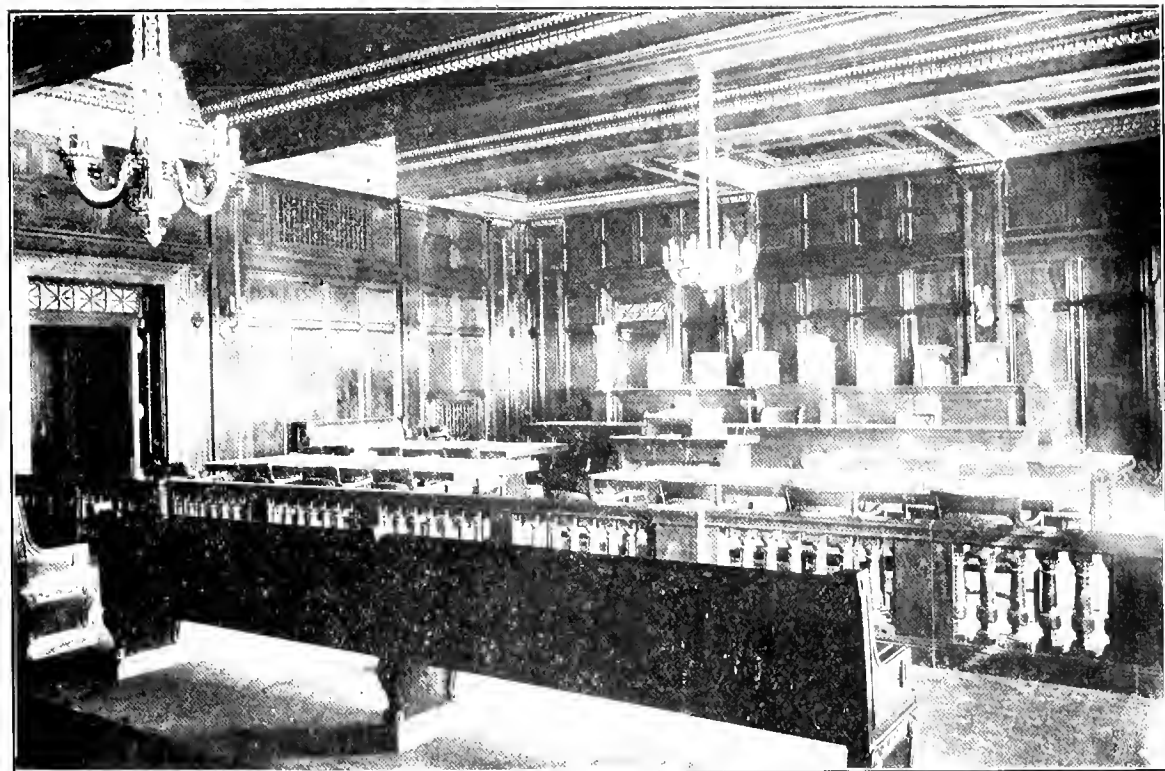
It is handsomely furnished with hand-carved Circassian Walnut, the walls are decorated with hand-painted cartoons of the Gobelin Tapestry and the hard-wood floor covered with a rug of the French Ellane quality, manufactured especially for the purpose. This room represents an expense of \$9,300—the furniture and window hangings costing \$5,000, the wall decorations \$2,500 and the carpet \$1,800. This latter was woven in Austria, the work requiring four months' time, and it is so heavy that the loom was broken three times. It is 16x54 feet and weighs 1,027 pounds, is said to be the largest specially designed rug ever woven, and the most splendid specimen of the Louis XIV period extant in the United States.





THE STATE RECEPTION ROOM





CHAMBER OF COURT OF APPEALS



In its manufacture it was necessary to cut by hand sixty-four knots to the square inch of its surface, and as it covers something like 425,000 square inches, an idea can be formed of the tedious nature of the work.

The furniture was manufactured in this country, the carving being executed by foreign workmen, however, some of them still wearing the wooden shoe of Switzerland. The mient velvet with which it is upholstered was manufactured at one of the Convents of St. Cloud, France, and cost the contractor \$13.50 per yard. The handsome center table, which attracts so much attention, as an individual cost \$1,100—its top of Breche Violette, an Italian marble, having been selected to harmonize with the wall trimmings, which are Scagliola, made in imitation of the Italian Pavonazzo marble.

## Court Room

THE chamber of the Court of Appeals is indeed handsome, perhaps more so than any other court room in the United States. The walls are paneled in solid Honduras mahogany, the ceiling is Dutch metal leaf laquered to represent "old bronze," paneled, with egg and dart mould effect, and the furniture of mahogany, upholstered in olive green leather. The light fixtures are of brush brass, satin finish, and are exceedingly beautiful. This room represents an expense of something like \$14,000.

## Consultation Room

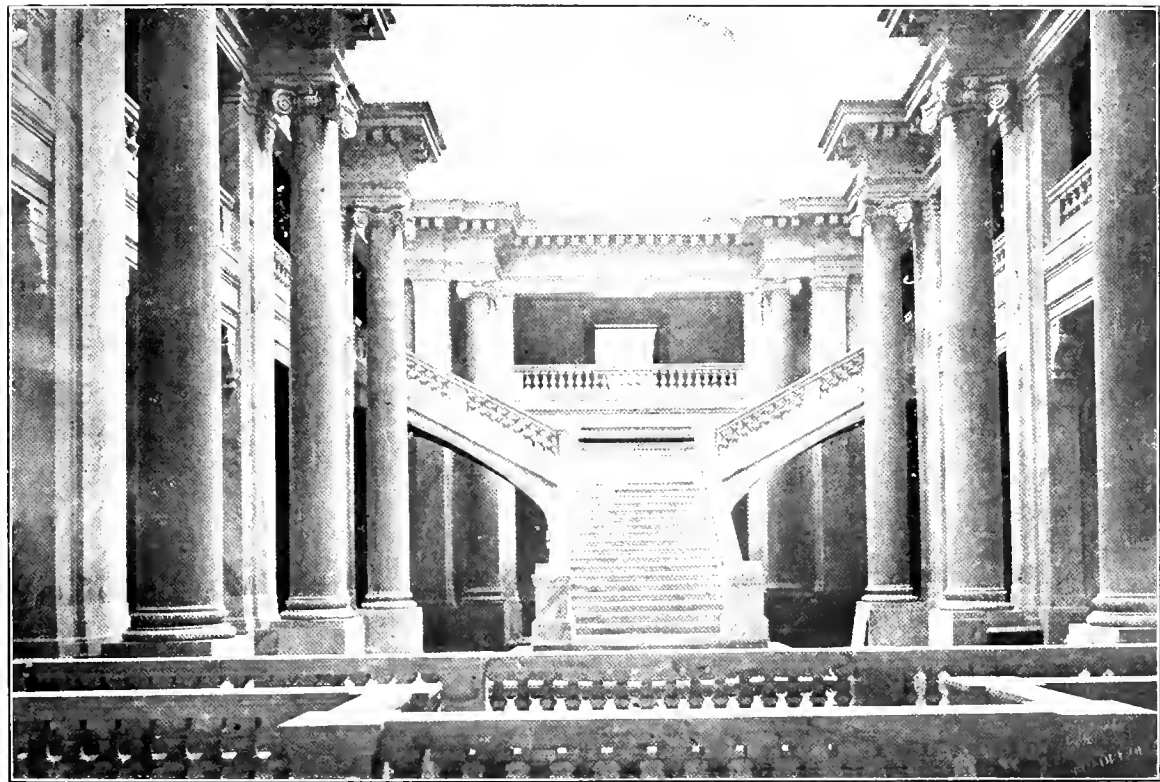
AT the north-east angle of the building, on the second floor, and connected with the Court Room, by means of the "Robing Room," is located the Consultation Room, in which the Judges of the Court of Appeals do the bulk of their work. It is elegantly furnished in mahogany, chairs and davenports upholstered in leather, and upon its walls are portraits of many of the distinguished jurists who have occupied the bench of Kentucky's court of last resort.

## Legislative Halls

THE chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives are both finished with Scagliola, the former in imitation of the Sienna and the latter the Numidian marble. The furniture is mahogany of the richest and most substantial character, leather upholstery, and the retiring and reception rooms are equally as comfortably and luxuriously fitted up. Each member is supplied with a roll-top mahogany desk, with individual electric light, and call button for the purpose of summoning a page.

## Basement and Fourth Floor

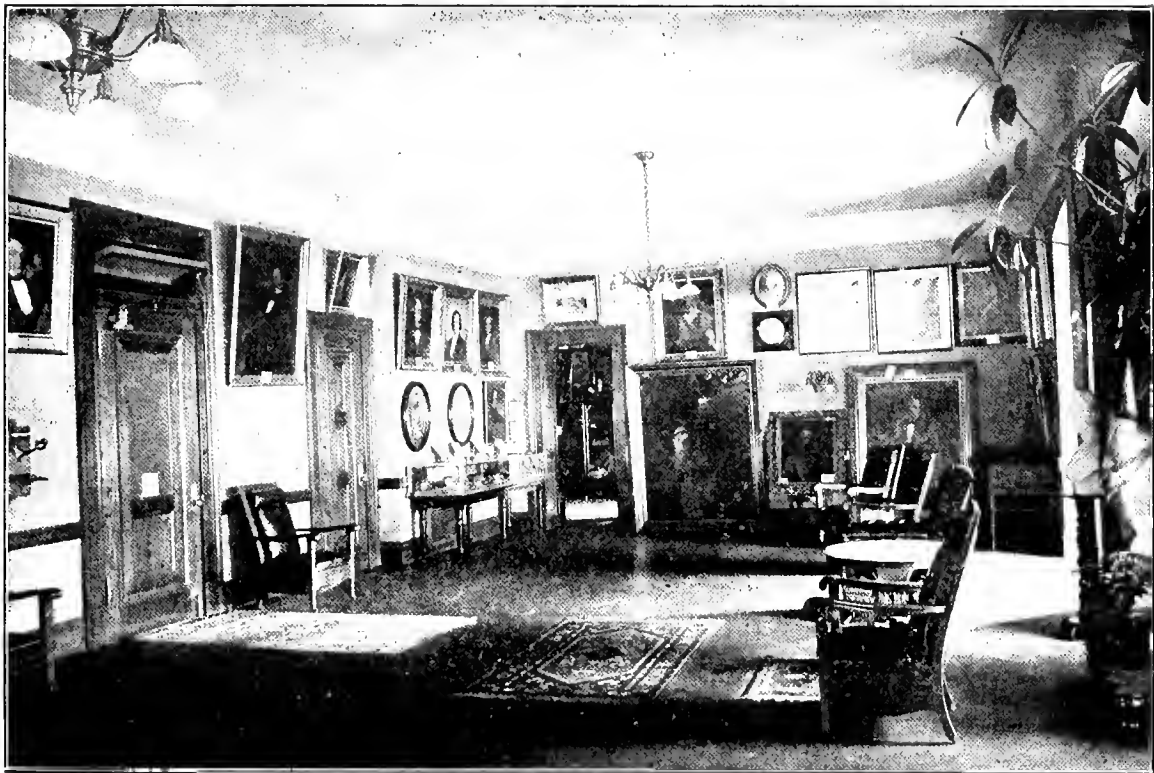
IN the basement and upon the fourth or gallery floor there are numerous file and storage rooms, where the old books and papers can be safely deposited for a



THE EAST END OF STAIR HALL.







THE HISTORICAL ROOMS



hundred years to come. Upon these floors have been placed the heating and ventilating machinery, and the appliances for washing the air before it is forced into the building.

## Hotter House

FROM which the heat, light and water supply is obtained, is located below the brow of the hill at the eastern edge of the grounds, upon the line of the Lawrenceburg turnpike, on the Kentucky river, and is connected with the building by a tunnel six and a half by five by nine hundred feet. It is supplied with the latest and most improved machinery for furnishing light and heat and appliances for pumping, refrigerating and filtering water, and for vacuum cleaning. This plant cost \$90,000.

## Historical Rooms

AT THE south-west angle of the first floor are located the apartments of the Historical Society, where are displayed the portraits of all but four Governors of the State as well as of Boone, Kenton and other distinguished Kentuckians, articles of historical interest, old manuscripts, etc. Here hours can be profitably spent, in comfort and with pleasure.

## File Room of Secretary of State

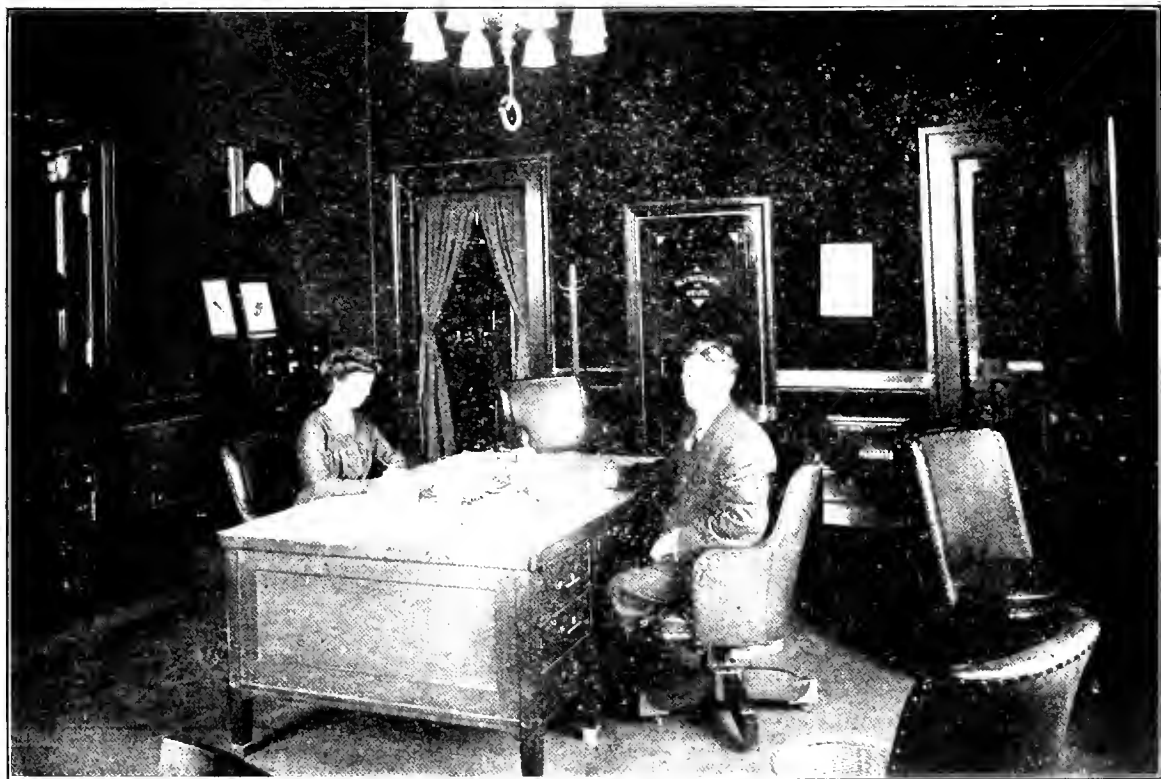
**A**T THE north-west angle of the building is located on the first floor a room in which much can be learned of the early history of Kentucky, for here are on file the executive papers of every Governor, from Isaac Shelby to Gov. McCreary, the bound volumes of the enrolled bills passed by the Legislatures from that of 1792 down to date, the executive journals of every Governor from the first to the present, and such historic documents as the resolutions of '98. It is alone interesting to see the signatures of the earlier Governors and the splendid penmanship of the days of quill pens and handmade paper.

## Top of the Dome

**T**O REACH the lantern on top of the dome is rather a dangerous task. The elevator is taken to the fourth floor, a flight of steps carries you to the square of the dome, where you enter a shaft four feet six inches in diameter and wind around a spiral flight of seventy-eight steps, next ascend straight up a ladder of fifty rungs, and then crawl through a small opening in the floor of the lantern. The view is splendid, but the height too dizzy for the average person.

## Finally

**W**HEN you have seen the very many beautiful features of Kentucky's new Capitol you will be ready to exclaim with the hosts who have preceded you, "The half has not been told."



PRIVATE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE FIRST APARTMENT OCCUPIED IN THE BUILDING



## The Mansion

THE Legislature of 1912 having appropriated \$75,000 for the erection of a new home for the Governor of Kentucky, the Capitol Commission has purchased the property of Hon. L. F. Johnson, at the eastern edge of the Capitol grounds, and before many months a handsome Executive Mansion will stand upon a knoll overlooking the winding Kentucky river to the north and south, and looking out upon the splendid scenery across the river to the east while from its front will stretch away to the west the beautiful Capitol Grounds.

The foundation will be of brick, stone and concrete, while the walls will be of brick, faced with stone, and the building will be 80 by 160 feet, three stories in height, with ample basement. Facing the west there will be a handsome main entrance protected by an elegant portico, supported by massive columns, while at the south end of the building there will be another, or private entrance.

Approaching from the west one enters a wide entrance hall, which runs half through the building, where it meets the main hall, running north and south, and from the union of the two rises the main stairway of the building.

In the basement will be located the kitchen, laundry, storage rooms, etc., and the building will be supplied with water, light, heat and vacuum cleaning service from the Power Plant of the Capitol.

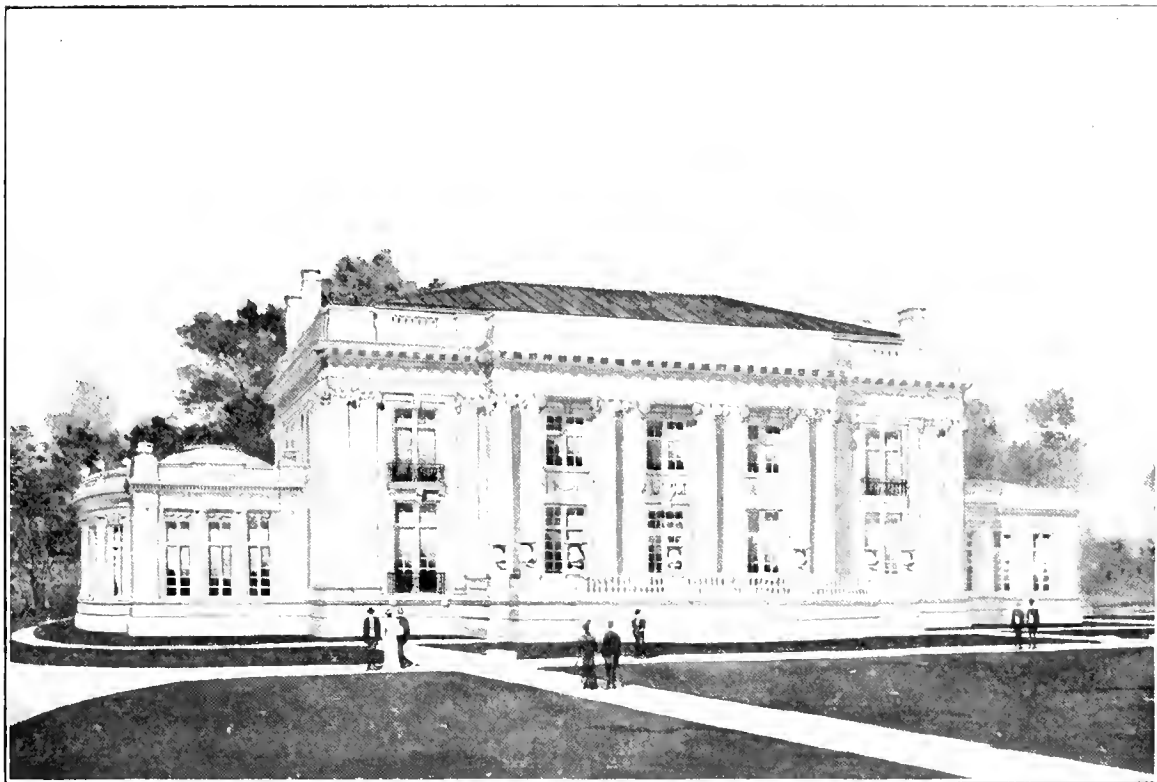
On the first floor will be located, to the left of the main entrance, a large drawing room, ball room and banquet hall; on the right, upon entering, will be found a large reception room, dining room and waiting room; while to the south there is the

private office of the Governor and small reception and waiting rooms. The latter may also be reached from the south or private entrance. The second floor is devoted to bedrooms, baths, toilet and storage rooms, while on the third floor are located bedrooms and servant's apartments. The house is to cost about \$62,000, while \$3,500 will be expended for furnishings.

The building was designed by Messrs. C. C. & E. A. Weber, architects, of Fort Thomas, Ky., and the accompanying illustration shows that they are gentlemen of taste and skill.







THE NEW EXECUTIVE MANSION.



Roberts Printing Co.

Frankfort, Ky.

Jul 15 1912



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 573 183 5